Lucas, Sir Charles (Royal Colonial Institute, London) Jan. - March 1920

(031)

January 8th, 1920

Sir Charles Lucas, K.C.B., C.C.M.G.,
Royal Colonial Institute,
London, England.

My dear Sir:

Professor A. L. Newton of the University of London spent a few days in Toronto towards the end of the year and delivered some addresses which attracted a great deal of attention. Among other matters which were brought to the attention of the Board of Trade of the City of Toronto was the relationship of the West Indies to Canada. Professor Newton has already written to you a letter with regard to this question and he asked me to follow up his communication with a statement of my own, inasmuch as I am somewhat intimately acquainted with the affairs in Trinidad and the lesser Islands of the West Indies.

For many years now I have been interested in the future of the West Indies. As the economic tide, particularly of Jamaica, with the United States are being so rapidly strengthened, it may not be long before the question of the political relationship of these Islands to the United States becomes one of great importance. It would surely be a grievous loss to the British Empire to have these Islands drift out of connection with it. I am also confident that when Canada awakes to the realize of the loss she would recognize what an irreparable mistake she had done in not becoming more interested in them before it was too late to make connection so close as to be permanent. Canadians know very little of the West Indies, and the West Indians know very little about Canada, but in many ways these parts of the world are complementary to each other. With the growth of Canada a valuable market would open up to the West Indies, and with the social development of the West Indies a valuable market would be provided for Canada. Of course the racial differences are serious, and the political questions that might arise would be difficult of solution, but I can hardly think that they would prove insoluble.

It seems to me that the approach in this matter should

come not from Canada, because, unless the sentiment is greatly changed, the West Indians would look upon Canada as not being sufficiently important to approach them with a view to a closer relationship. If anything is to be done it seems to me that the suggestion should come from England. Probably there are in many of the West Indies enough farseeing men to realise that as things are going now they are carrying them insensibly into such dependence upon the United States that soon their future may be determined for them.

Professor Newton told me that you were deeply interested in this matter, and if you agree with my point of view I am confident that there is no one better able than yourself to initiate any suggestions which might be considered with favour by men of influence in the West Indies.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

PERSONAL.

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ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO
THE SECRETARY.

CABLES: RECITAL LONDON

INLAND TELEGRAMS
RECITAL WESTRAND LONDON

TELEPHONE
REGENT 4940 (THREE LINES)

SECRETARY
SIR HARRY WILSON, K.C.M.G.

ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE,
NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE,
LONDON W.C.2

28th January, 1920.

Sir Robert W. Falconer, K.C.M.G.,
President of
The University,
Toronto, CANADA.

Dear Sir Robert Falconer,

I am answering your letter of the 8th January upon the subject of the relations between Canada and the West Indies. I have also heard from Dr. Newton and Mr. Kenneth Dunstan on the same subject.

The question of the relations between Canada and the West Indies seems to me as difficult as it is interesting. I have studied it for a long time past, but I am quite certain that closer relations must be allowed to grow, and that while all efforts to promote trade between Canada and the West Indies would be gladly welcomed, any suggestion of a political nature would not, under existing conditions, be likely to meet with any response in the West Indies. I should not be prepared myself to take part at the present time in discussion or public ventilation of the subject because I consider, from the enquiries I have lately made, that any such action would be inopportune and unwise. I am fully alive, however, to the reasoning embodied in your letter, and thank you very much for having communicated with me.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

C. P. Lucas

Chairman of the Council.

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February 13th, 1920

Sir Charles Lucas,
Royal Colonial Institute,
Northumberland Avenue,
London, W.C. 2 , England.
Dear Sir Charles Lucas:

Many thanks for your letter. I quite realise that the political situation between the West Indies and Canada is of such a delicate nature that it must be handled with the greatest of circumspection, and of course you have inside knowledge with regard to it that makes your opinion of the greatest value.

Possibly all that can be done is to endeavour to strengthen ours, though I am somewhat doubtful as to whether, especially in the case of Jamaica, Canada could now take possession of the place that the United States has won for herself. One of the chief fears to be taken would work against the absorption of the West Indies in the United States is the feeling of independence in the West Indian black and his knowledge of the attitude taken in the United States towards the Southern negro. Of course one cannot tell how potent a motive this would be, but I have no doubt myself that there is a very great difference between the two types of negroes or coloured folk.

Yours sincerely,

President.

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

MEMORANDUM FOR

March 3 1920

Miss R. Hutton

Will you please give the President an address for Professor G. I. H. Lloyd?

I am not sure of his official address or I believe he is leaving the Meeting of Ministers but his private address is

8 Cheyne Gardens
Chelsea
London S.W.

R. Hutton

A. H. Patterson
Secretary

March 3rd, 1920

G. L. S. Lloyd, Esq.,
8 Cheyne Gardens,
Chelsea, London, S.W.,
England.

My dear Lloyd:

We are looking for a good man in Economics. Professor Mavor is not as strong as he was, and in any case the work of the Department has become so heavy that we should have a really good man. I think we could give an Associate-Professorship if necessary, but of course if there is not a good man of that grade we could take a good junior who is full of promise at either the highest position of a lecturership or an Assistant Professorship. An Associate Professor might get $3500; a lecturer or Assistant Professor may where between $2000 and $2500. You know our situation so well that I am sure you will appreciate the kind of man we need. These are taxing times when men of self-restraint and good balanced judgment are particularly valuable, and also men who are not likely to go to extremes on any economic theories. Is it too much to ask you to make inquiries for us ? In Canada I do not see any one at all. They are also very difficult to find in the United States and I suppose also in England men of economic training do not need to seek far for a position.

I hope that after your long and strenuous work in the Munitions you have been getting some rest. I heard a while ago that you were rather tired. Please give Mrs. Lloyd my kind remembrance. I hope that the children are well. We have had a serious time with the flu but are coming through.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.